



City of Cincinnati Board of Health Finance Committee

Tuesday, September 15, 2020

Dr. Bhati, Chair of the Board Finance Committee, called the September 15, 2020
Finance Committee meeting to order at 3:30 PM.

Roll Call

Members present: Amar Bhati, chair, Robert Brown, Tim Collier, Robert Hall, Edward Herzig, Domonic Hopson, Phil Lichtenstein, Melba Moore.

Topic	Discussion	Action/Motion
Approval of Minutes	<p>The Chair asked the Committee members if everyone had the opportunity to review the minutes from the last meeting.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> That the Board of Health (BOH) Finance Committee approve the minutes of the August 18, 2020 Board of Health Finance Committee Meeting.</p>	<p><u>Motion: Bhati</u> <u>Second: Herzig</u> <u>Action: Passed</u></p>
Update Committee on Home Health Progress: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Back billing Use of nurse practitioners 	<p>Ms. Jenny Scott stated there as of January 31, 2020, there are 1,417 total home health encounters needed back billed. We have \$60,211.32 pending from our payors. There are 136 claims from patients without insurance (136 claims @ \$5.00 per visit = \$680.00) and 99 claims for United HealthCare not paid (99 @\$47.40 = \$4,692.00). All claims have been submitted within the time frame for payment.</p> <p>Nurses are being paired with Community Health Workers and will conduct medication education which is \$118 per visit increasing our projected revenue.</p> <p>Mr. Robert Hall stated that he was going to take a closer look at the expenses and budget and provide better numbers.</p> <p>The Chair asked about a potential timeline for returning to safe in-home visits since the Governor allowed the resumption of home visiting. Ms. Scott stated that within the next 30 days we should be able to resume. We want to make sure our residents and nurses are safe.</p> <p>Mr. Brown asked about the current home health staffing level. Ms. Scott replied that it currently has 2 PHN2 registered nurses, and the supervising nurse. She is in the process of hiring another PHN2 and</p>	

	<p>PHN3. Mr. Brown asked about how many Community Health Workers (CHW) there are and how they are being used. Ms. Jill Byrd said four out of the seven CHW positions are filled. CHWs work more with prenatal clients. They visit patients at least monthly. Mr. Brown asked the level of contact for post-natal patients. Ms. Byrd said the CHW assess the environment. Nurses take on more skilled nursing issues.</p> <p>Mr. Domonic Hopson asked how many patients were also CCPC patients? Ms. Byrd stated that 95 percent of patients seen by CHWs were also CCPC patients. As University Hospital makes most post-natal referrals, between 50 and 60 percent of patients seeing a nurse are also CCPC patients. Ms. Scott stated that with the new EMR system, we will have much more data regarding the patients including demographics.</p>	
Update on ODMHAS SOR Grant for Minorities	<p>Shane Satterfield reported that the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (ODMHAS) SOR grant provides funding for minority populations to address mental, dental, behavioral health, transportation, housing, etc. This is done in collaboration with Talbert House and UMADOT. CHD provides health care, Talbert House provides the housing, and UMADOT provides support and case manager services. The grant is for \$491,000. We are developing an internal process to drawdown from the grant instead of billing the patient. There are currently six patients enrolled and eleven are going through the assessment process.</p> <p>The Chair asked how the program has been adjusted due to COVID? Mr. Satterfield said that we are waiting to see if we will be given an extension on the grant time.</p>	
Review of Contracts for September 22, 2020 BOH Meeting	<p>The Chair began the review of the contracts that will go to the Board of Health (BOH) for approval.</p> <p>Children’s Hospital Medical Center (CHMC) – This accounts receivable grant is for CHMC. CHD will engage one full-time (40 hours per week) community health worker (“CHW”) to support Cradle Cincinnati’s community partnership to incorporate the life course perspective through a partnership with the school-based health center at Aiken High School (“Aiken”). This CHW will collaborate to reach teens, who would not otherwise have access to these services, by meeting them where they are most accessible, at school. By utilizing an existing administrative protocol for implementing CHW services in Cincinnati Public Schools, this CHW will use one-on-one and group reproductive and sexual health prevention and education measures to help Cradle Cincinnati and Children’s Hospital to accomplish their goal of improving maternal and infant vitality in Cincinnati.</p>	

	<p>If a student expresses interest in reproductive health services, including birth control and STI testing, the school health staff can refer the student to the CHW. In addition to individual meetings, the CHW will hold group sessions at Aiken, where they will leave sign-up sheets with the school nurse for those students who are more comfortable talking in a group of their peers. The CHW will have tools to discuss topics with any parent who is uncomfortable with the prospect of students using contraceptives, will not allow use, or is preventing the student from seeking appropriate medical care. The CHW will also host monthly or bi-monthly meetings with faculty and/or parents at each school to discuss reproductive health issues for students, including safe sex, STI prevention, pregnancy prevention, contraception questions, and any other concerns that parents may have.</p> <p>Contractor will start providing the outlined CHW services no later than July 1, 2020. The amount is for \$49,335.00 with a term from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.</p> <p>Ms. Maria Morton walked the Committee through the contract, there were no questions.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> That the Board of Health Finance Committee recommend approval.</p> <p>Children’s Hospital Medical Center (CHMC) – This accounts payable grant is for CHMC to provide a Quality Improvement Specialist (QIS) for 20 hours per week. The QIS will provide support to CHD’s quality improvement initiatives and work closely with Domonic Hopson, MPH, CEO of the City of Cincinnati Primary Care and Assistant Health Commissioner at CHD to develop and spread CHD initiatives to improve care for children and families in Cincinnati. The amount is \$67,086.00 with a term of October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021.</p> <p>Mr. Domonic Hopson walked the Committee through the contract and answered questions. The Chair asked if we could receive quarterly updates? Mr. Hopson said that we can report back.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> That the Board of Health Finance Committee recommend approval.</p>	<p><u>Motion: Herzig</u> <u>Second: Brown</u> <u>Action: Passed</u></p> <p><u>Motion: Bhati</u> <u>Second: Herzig</u> <u>Action: Passed</u></p>
Financial Update	<p>Mr. Hall stated that expenditures are trending within the budgetary amount. Revenue is trending better than last year. Grants are doing better. A new item is the Board of Education – due to COVID-19. For August there is a net loss of \$1,570,533 before transfers.</p> <p>Mr. Hopson added that with the HRSA grant we need to incur the expenses before drawing on the grant funds so there is always a lag.</p>	

	<p>Mr. Hopson stated that two school-based health centers are closed, and we have seen an increase in payment from our self-pay patients. The Chair asked what the difference in reimbursement is for telehealth v. a regular office. Mr. Hopson stated that it varies by clinic. Medicaid is full reimbursement. Medicare is about 80 percent of a regular visit. It is anticipated that this rate with Medicaid will continue as CMS has determined to make that rate permanent.</p> <p>Mr. Tim Collier asked if in the future we can use telehealth for those who have not shown up for their appointment? Mr. Hopson said that Mr. Satterfield has used this very effectively in behavioral health by calling the patient and asking if they are in a private setting. The Chair asked if we could assist people who lack the technology to fully utilize telehealth. Mr. Hopson stated that we had applied for an FTC grant that we did not get. OCIN did receive such a grant and expressed a desire to make CHD a subgrantee. We will continue to look for these types of grants.</p> <p>Mr. Hopson stated that our revenue for August is above where we were for last year. In August, 28 percent of our patients were self-pay, and Medicaid patients were 39 percent. In dental, 36 percent of their patients were self-pay with Medicaid patients making up 51 percent. At the school-based health clinics, uninsured patients dropped to 18 percent. School-based dental clinics saw that 25 percent of their patients were uninsured and Medicaid patients made up 51 percent, and private insurance patients were 13 percent. Behavioral health has a very low uninsured rate of 13 percent. In August we met most of our targets for having claims paid in a timely manner. This is the fourth month in a row that our days in AR are trending down.</p>	
Letter on Invoicing	<p>Mr. Hopson stated that upon our annual review of the HRSA compliance manual we found that for FQHCs to obtain federal funding it must make reasonable efforts to obtain payment for services. We were not in compliance as we never invoiced our self-pay patients. A couple of months ago, the CCPC board put a policy in place requiring us to invoice self-pay patients. The policy requires that we never negatively impact our patients' credit score. This works in tandem with our sliding fee scale so that patients are only charged what they can afford. The board has also created a financial hardship waiver. We also can set up payment schedule. To encourage people to sign up for insurance, if someone signs up within 90 days of service, we will not charge for that visit. We will track this through our annual patient survey that asks questions about affordability.</p> <p>The Chair asked when we can expect to see survey results? Mr. Hopson stated that we should have results in January.</p>	

Public Comment	Mr. Jon Lawniczak stated that per public notice, any member of the public that wanted to address the Committee needed to fill out a public comment request card. No cards were received.	
Review Action Items	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Report on our efforts regarding patients with chronic conditions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Mussman, October 2. Report on data from Voice of Your Customer anti-tobacco media campaign <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Smith, October 3. Report on the unemployed losing their health insurance benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Moore, November 	

Meeting Adjourned 4:40 p.m.
Next Meeting October 20, 2020 at 3:30 p.m.
Minutes prepared by Jon Lawniczak